



NORTH DAKOTA
DEPARTMENT *of* HEALTH

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:
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Governor Hoeven Proclaims Breast Cancer Awareness Month ***North Dakota Women Encouraged To Obtain Appropriate Breast Cancer Screenings***

BISMARCK, N.D.- Governor John Hoeven has proclaimed October 2006 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in North Dakota.

"Because breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women, it is important to continue the fight against the disease," Hoeven said. "I encourage all North Dakota women to take appropriate steps to protect themselves, including getting regular mammograms and making healthy lifestyle choices."

Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer for women, with 450 new cases per year in North Dakota. It is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in women. About 5,000 North Dakota women were breast cancer survivors in 2000.

Women's Way is North Dakota's Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Since its inception in 1997, the program has provided screening to 8,150 North Dakota women, resulting in 118 cases of breast cancer detected.

"Early detection and screening save lives," said Mary Ann Foss, state program coordinator for *Women's Way*. "It is important for women to remember their yearly mammogram. Breast Cancer Awareness Month provides a great opportunity for a reminder."

To learn more about screening guidelines or *Women's Way*, call 1-800-44 WOMEN or visit the webpage at www.ndhealth.gov/womensway.

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Please note: Proclamation follows.

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Proclamation
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH
October 2006

WHEREAS, about 470 North Dakotans will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women in North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, about 5,000 North Dakotans are breast cancer survivors; and

WHEREAS, it is important to continue the fight against breast cancer and to reduce the risk of this disease among our citizens; and

WHEREAS, October 20th is National Mammography Day; and

WHEREAS, I encourage North Dakotans to take appropriate steps to protect themselves, including getting regular mammograms and making healthy lifestyle choices.

NOW, THEREFORE, as the Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2006 BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

John Hoeven
Governor

-- 30 --

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